

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between The REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA
Through the
MINISTRY OF THE ECONOMY, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
And the
U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
For
COOPERATION
Associated with
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY MATTERS

ARTICLE I - SCOPE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a statement of intent between the Costa Rica Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Commerce (MEIC) and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), hereinafter called "the Participants," provides a framework through which the Costa Rica MEIC and the U.S. CPSC can share expertise, information and other support to improve consumer product safety.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of the MOU is to help reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries associated with some consumer products. This MOU sets forth the working relationship between the MEIC and the CPSC who intend to work together toward the common goal of improving consumer product safety.

ARTICLE III - INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The MEIC and the CPSC should each designate a contact person who should be responsible for notifying the other contact person on consumer product safety matters of potential mutual interest. Information exchanged on consumer product safety matters may include, but is not limited to, E-mail messages on consumer product recalls and other safety notices. Each Participant should provide to the other Participant, upon request and to the extent practicable, public documents (e.g., periodicals, annual reports, case studies, proposed regulations, statistics, and corrective actions on potentially hazardous products) relating to consumer product safety.

ARTICLE IV - COOPERATION TO REDUCE LOSSES FROM HAZARDOUS CONSUMER PRODUCTS

The Participants should cooperate, subject to their respective policies, priorities, and other factors, to help reduce the loss of life and serious injuries associated with specific consumer products. Such cooperation may include, but is not limited to, identification of hazard reduction strategies and exchange of suggestions to lessen these losses.

ARTICLE V - OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Participants are to consider, on a case-by-case basis and subject to resources and other limitations, training programs, expert exchanges, and other activities that are considered to be mutually beneficial.

ARTICLE VI - PRIORITY TO DOMESTIC POPULATION

The Participants reserve the right to give priority to addressing hazards to the populations they represent while this MOU is in effect.

ARTICLE VII - MODIFICATION OF MOU

This MOU can be modified by the Participants in writing by mutual consent.

ARTICLE VIII - OTHER LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

This MOU and the intentions of the Participants therein remain subject to all applicable laws and regulations. This MOU shall not hinder the rights and obligations of the Participants under any existing or future arrangements or MOUs in which the Participant is involved.

ARTICLE IX - PERIODIC MOU REVIEW

The Participants should establish a regular review process whereby both Participants may evaluate the implementation of the MOU. The first review should be undertaken on or before the first anniversary date of this MOU.

ARTICLE X - LIAISON

Each of the Participants should designate a contact person to whom correspondence and communications concerning this MOU should be directed.

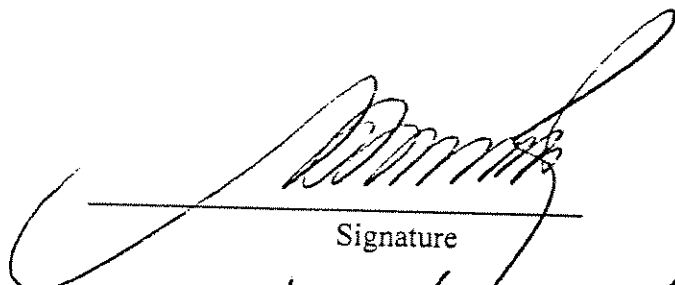
ARTICLE XI - EFFECTIVE DATE

This MOU is to become effective on the date of the last signature hereafter, and will be effective for one year and automatically renewed yearly, unless a notice of termination is given by either Participant. Termination of this MOU is to be effected by written postal mail or by electronic notice at least 30 days prior to the effective date of termination.

Reading this MOU, and conscious of its scope both Participants sign accepting these clauses in Washington D.C., United States of America, on October 4 of 2004, in two copies, one in Spanish and the other in English, on the same terms and effects,

GILBERTO BARRANTES
MINISTER
FOR THE COSTA RICA
MINISTRY OF THE ECONOMY,
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE


HAROLD D. STRATTON, Jr.
CHAIRMAN
FOR THE U.S. CONSUMER
PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION



Signature

10/4/04

Date



Signature

10/4/04

Date